

author's knowledge was based on a thoroughly practical acquaintance with the animals with which he dealt. While we fully admit the difficulties of the task of compilation of the second, the present work, we regret we cannot recommend it with the confidence extended to its predecessor.

THE PROBLEM OF TRUTH.

Das Wahrheitsproblem unter Kulturphilosophischem Gesichtspunkt—Eine philosophische Skizze. Von Dr. Hermann Leser. Pp. iv + 90. (Leipzig: Dürr'sche Buchhandlung, 1901.) Price 2 marks.

THE author of this work is not a "jesting Pilate." His book contains rather a thorough discussion of the problem of truth in some of its widest issues. The standpoint is essentially Kantian, but with a difference. The question raised in the "Critique of Pure Reason" was, How are pure mathematical science and pure natural science possible?—in other words, on what principles can it be maintained that the ordinary experience of man *quâ* intellectual gives him truth? Dr. Leser contends that the problem should be stated more widely in the form, How is truth in general possible, the truth of all the higher spiritual life of man, of religion, morality, art, as well as science? And it is claimed for the work before us that, as compared with Kant's, it is more concrete in treatment, that it goes nearer the heart of things, and that while including and remaining true to Kant's results it gives a more satisfactory basis for future development.

The first part deals with a deepened idea of experience, for which the author employs the term "Kulturhistorische Erfahrung." By this he appears to mean the higher spiritual experience of the race as exhibited by history in such things as institutions, codes, systems, standards of judgment. In the development of this view, naturalism is subjected to some telling criticism. Finding nothing anywhere but "bare results, finer complications of natural process," naturalism would exclude all facts which do not coincide with, or cannot be reduced to, the facts of ordinary natural science. In dealing with the institutions in which the spiritual life has found expression, naturalism pays regard only to the crystallised form, not to the spiritual potencies which have been at work. It attaches exclusive value to what is genetically original, and denies, for example, the characteristic distinction between good and bad by deriving it from the distinction between the useful and the harmful. Such a psychogenetic method can never get beyond brutal actuality to norms or standards of judgment; it is only a transcendental method (the author maintains) which can disclose the organisation of "rulers and subjects," for example, the subordination of what is first in time to what is ideally fundamental.

The latter part of the book is concerned with the problem of truth from the new standpoint thus gained. It is pointed out that Kant replaced the old objectivity (supposed to exist entirely out of relation to a subject) by transcendental-subjectivity, than which no more secure objectivity can be found. This means that truth is to be found by "turning to one's own depths"; but if it is

to be depths and not shallows, to be *transcendental*-subjectivity in the right sense and not bare subjectivity in the wrong sense, we must have recourse to "Kulturhistorische Erfahrung." It is only as experience is writ thus large that the potencies at work can be discovered. One of the chief of these potencies is personality. Personality Dr. Leser opposes on the one hand to bare individualism, and on the other to the equally bare disregard of the personal factor. The great man is neither the heaven-sent hero dear to the soul of a Carlyle nor the hollow pipe through which the "Zeitgeist" pours such music as it listeth. Or, as our author puts the latter point: "The man is more than the product of his time; planting himself on the original truth which he has found within him, it is he who first makes a new height attainable."

The work is not unnecessarily stiff. At times, perhaps, a little vagueness is felt, and the technical terms, as usual, can rarely be translated by single words. But his readers will doubtless welcome another book from this careful and suggestive writer. R. G. N.

OUR BOOK SHELF.

Catalogue of the Lepidoptera Phalaenae in the British Museum. Vol. iii. "Catalogue of the Arctiadae (Arctianae) and Agaristidae in the Collection of the British Museum." By Sir George F. Hampson, Bart. Pp. xix + 690. Plates xxxvi-liv. (London: Printed by Order of the Trustees, 1901.)

FOR a long time after the study of exotic butterflies began to grow popular in England, that of moths continued to be much neglected, though moths, taken as a whole, are equally beautiful and far more numerous than the butterflies. But after the pathway had been smoothed by the useful, though much abused, catalogue of Walker, the works of Moore, Butler and Druce, and especially by Kirby's "Catalogue of Lepidoptera Heterocera: Sphingidae and Bombycidae," published in 1892, the Trustees of the British Museum decided to issue a general descriptive catalogue of the moths of the world, which bids fair to become one of the largest and most profusely illustrated of all their publications on natural history.

The work was entrusted to Sir George F. Hampson and three thick volumes have already been issued. According to the table of families in vol. i. the author admits fifty-two, which, deducting seven for the butterflies, leaves forty-five for the moths, of which only the first three are monographed in the portion of the work already published, so that little more than the fringe of the subject has yet been touched. Of course some of these families only include a few species; but, on the other hand, there are several very much more extensive than the Arctiadae, which alone fill up the greater part of vols. ii. and iii. The plates are published separately, and can be bought separately, a useful arrangement which will enable students who require an additional copy of the book for working purposes to purchase it without the additional and unnecessary cost of a duplicate set of coloured plates. In addition to these coloured plates, drawn by Mr. Horace Knight and chromolithographed by West, Newman and Co., the book is further illustrated by text-illustrations of types of genera, showing both the pattern and the most important generic details, and of these compound figures there are no less than 294 in vol. iii., in which 946 Arctianae and 225 Agaristidae are described, of which a considerable number are new species. At the end of the volume is a short list of species which the author has not been able to identify from the published descriptions. Should further information respecting these be forthcoming, we presume that

these, and any other casual omissions, will ultimately be dealt with in an appendix.

The next family to be monographed, if the author continues to follow the arrangement prefixed to his first volume, will be the extensive family of Noctuidæ, which alone may be expected to occupy several volumes.

To the technical portion of the book we can scarcely refer here in detail. It is a work that appeals mainly to specialists, and only specialists will be able to appreciate the time and labour involved in its production at their full value.

Psychology Normal and Morbid. By C. A. Mercier, M.B. Pp. xvi + 578. (London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co., Ltd., 1901.) Price 15s.

MR. MERCIER'S "morbid" psychology is, as one would naturally expect, the best part of his book, and almost as good is the general discussion of the questions raised by pleasure-pain and by emotion. The author dissents from Prof. James's "back-wave" theory of emotion on much the same grounds which have led to its rejection by Stout and other contemporary psychologists, and, like Stout, rightly insists that the dependence of emotion upon an object beneficial or injurious to the organism must be the starting-point of any theory of its nature. An interesting feature of the discussion of pleasure-pain is the writer's belief that there are no reproduced ideas of pleasure and pain. The present reviewer is inclined to agree with him, but the question is a difficult one. In his general theorising Mr. Mercier is far too ready to accept associationist views which are virtually dead in the scientific psychology of to-day. This is specially true of his account of perception, which is identical with Spencer's, but quite at variance with the doctrine (which pathological cases as well as the study of animals seem to demand) that "ideas" are subsequent to precepts.

The weakest part of the book is the long section on logic, which is also, strictly speaking, irrelevant in a treatise on psychology. The axiom formulated on p. 86 would justify the inference, "Solomon is the son of David, and David the son of Jesse, therefore Solomon is the son of Jesse." The furious attack upon the mathematical doctrine of probability also rests largely upon the pure misconception that the statement of chances is put forward by mathematicians as a measure of the actual strength of our belief. A. E. T.

A Record of the Progress of the Zoological Society of London during the Nineteenth Century. Edited by the Secretary. Pp. 248. (London: Clowes and Sons, Ltd., 1901.)

UNDER the auspices of a committee consisting of Mr. Slater, Dr. Smith Woodward, Prof. Howes and Mr. Beddard, Mr. Scherren has prepared an excellent account of the principal doings of the Zoological Society since its foundation in 1826. The statements made are partly financial and partly relate to the number of the public who have availed themselves of the opportunity of entering the gardens, as well as to the papers read before the Society and to the lectures delivered in the gardens. It is curious to note the gradual growth of the popularity of the Zoological Gardens as a place of resort, a growth which is not altogether *pari passu* with the increasing population of the country. Thus from 1872 to the present day the number of visitors has always exceeded 600,000, and in two notable years, viz. 1876, when His Majesty the King, then Prince of Wales, deposited the animals brought back by him from India, and again in 1882, the year of the "Jumbo-mania," exceeded the usual maximum by a hundred or two hundred thousand. From 1864 to 1871 the numbers were 500,000 and upward, while in earlier years the average number was not more than 300,000 to 400,000, with the exception of the phenomenal years 1851 and 1863, when the admissions rose

to more than 600,000. The earliest year in which these numbers are recorded is 1829, when only 98,605 persons visited the gardens. The numbers then rose and again fell during the 'forties. During these seventy-four years there have been eight presidents, seven secretaries and three vice-secretaries. The late Earl of Derby and the late Sir William Flower held their office of president for the longest period, viz. twenty years, and next in order of tenure come the Prince Consort and the Marquess of Tweeddale, who occupied the chair for ten years each. This volume contains also a list of the present Fellows of the Society and the charter and bye-laws.

Leitfaden der Landschafts-Photographie. By Fritz Loeschner. Pp. v + 162. (Berlin: Gustav Schmidt, 1901.) Price Mk. 4'50.

WITH so many books in the English language on the subject of landscape photography, the amateur or professional may not think it worth while to read any new German work on the subject. This, however, should not be the case, for from such a volume as the one under notice it is possible, not only to obtain useful hints familiar on the Continent and unknown here, but at the same time to acquire facility in reading a foreign language.

The reader will certainly not be disappointed when he spends a few hours in becoming acquainted with what Herr Loeschner has to say in these 162 pages, for although the author goes, for the main part, over familiar ground, yet here and there a subject or object is seen from a new point of view.

The book is logically divided into three parts, namely, before the exposure, the exposure and after the exposure. The first deals with the apparatus generally employed in tripod and hand-camera photography, touching on the use and determination of the speed of shutters, perspective as produced by the objective, various kinds of and uses for photographic plates, and useful hints as regards packing, &c., for those who make long tours with cameras.

The second portion is restricted to the choice of the subject and the best way to photograph it, the author here giving some valuable suggestions on the consideration of distance, foreground, trees, sky, illumination and minor accessories to the picture. In the third and last portion of the book the treatment and after treatment of the exposed plate are described, the latter including all such manipulations as intensifying, retouching, copying, mounting, framing, enlarging and lantern-slide making.

Accompanying the text are twenty-four autotype reproductions from the author's own negatives.

Inductive Sociology. By F. H. Giddings, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor in Columbia University, New York. Pp. xviii + 302. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1901.) Price 8s. 6d. net.

THE object of this book, in the words of the author, is "to present a scheme of inductive method, a somewhat detailed analysis and classification of social facts, and a tentative formulation of the more obvious laws of social activity." It is not in any way a mere discussion of the possibilities of census taking, but an attempt to formulate a general scheme for the statistical, or quasi-statistical, description of a nation or "society," using materials from every available source. Thus the description covers the features of the area inhabited, the nature and sources of the food supply, the density, multiplication, migration, &c., of the population, and its racial composition; the political activity, cooperation for social ends, and general organisation of the society; its social security and administration of justice; wealth and its distribution; education; vitality and morality. The work is prefaced by four introductory chapters on the study of sociology and the inductive methods to be used.